

The GARZETTE

February, 2001

Volume 11, Issue 2



In This Issue:

<i>President's Pen</i>	1
<i>Club Meeting Notes</i>	2
<i>GARS Favorite Recipes</i>	2
<i>Congratulations to GARS</i>	4
<i>Hot Frequencies</i>	5
<i>Area Meeting and Exam Schedules</i>	6
<i>Calendar</i>	8
<i>Tech Fest</i>	10

The President's Pen

By David Adcock, KA4KKF

February, 2001

This is my last President's pen for a while. It has been a wonderful 2 years and as with any job, it has its ups and downs but I've met some very interesting people and I believe that GARS will keep on doing what it does best that is to have fun. As the outgoing executive committee returns to the rank and file of the membership, it's time for new people to take charge and move this club further into the future. You need to



get involved with activities and learn what has to be done. The only way to do it is give a helping hand now. What if you've been called to duty and you don't know what to do? You'll have to learn as you go. That can be pretty nerve

racking sometimes. Let's take advantage of the experienced people we have in the club. As the new year starts for the new administration, give them your support and help by volunteering when called upon. This club has a lot to offer to every ham in Gwinnett County so come be a part of this growing organization. I hope you find amateur radio a very interesting hobby. It will take a life-time to explore all of it. There is CW, FM

(Continued on page 2)



**Barry Zoll, N1TOQ,
Howie Gould, W9HG
and Arnold Solomon,
KC4ZUA enjoying
Tech Fest**

See Tech Fest
Article, page 10

THE GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

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If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or by email to N1TOQ@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of *The GARZETTE* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to *The GARZETTE*.

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Deadline for submissions is the Week of the Monthly Meeting for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For any additional information contact:

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All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048
Attn: Newsletter Editor



Club Meeting Notes

Submitted by Darren Pierce, AG4BF
January Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2001

Officers in attendance: President David Adcock, KA4KKF; Vice President Marty Fowler, KE4MLH; Activities Manager Darren Pierce, AG4BF.

President Adcock called meeting to order at 7:35 P.M. Visitors were recognized and welcomed to GARS, which was followed by member introductions.

Vice President Fowler had sign-up sheets for Tech Fest volunteers; requested volunteers for 12 volt DC theory and for set up and take down. Also had sign-up sheet for volunteers for the Dog Show; shifts from 6:00-10:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. Marty announced that copper pipe dipoles for 6 meters would be made at Tech Fest.

Dwight, KG4FJF, Membership Chairman, presented one new application for membership. Phil Chesney, KG4KPW was voted into GARS by unanimous vote.

Susan, AF4FO announced that the new apparel chairman is now Bill Carter KG4FXG. She also reported that check-ins were low on Tuesday's net and encouraged people to check-in. She gave a progress report on Howie W9HG who is getting better but still weak and passed around a "Get Well" card for everyone to sign.

The Treasurers report was read by David, KA4KKF and was accepted as read.

Victor, W4VEG reported that the Venture Crew wants to have a net on the 3rd Tuesday of the month and asked for operators to help the non-licensed crew members. He also reported on the "Pixie Event" in which 20 kits were built and he has already received 30 requests for articles. The Venture Crew will re-charter with 15 members.

Barry, N1TOQ was announced as new GARZETTE editor.

Paul, K4BET announced that he is still getting bad e-mail addresses because of e-mail address changes and if you have changed your address to contact him at K4BET@arrl.net .

Bob, W4ETN announced that he needs a Co-chairman for Field Day. He is planning a Field Day meeting next month, and is looking at computer logging and reducing the number of stations.

Continued on page 10

GARS Elections To Be Held

By Chad Hanger

Lawrenceville, GA—The Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society (GARS) will hold their annual elections on February 15, 2001 at the monthly club meeting. The slate of Candidates is impressive which will provide much excitement and discussion. The list of candidates can be found on page 10 of the *Garzette*.

Remember that every vote counts so be sure to attend the monthly meeting which begins at 7:30 PM at the Central Baptist Church on Gwinnett Drive in Lawrenceville. Talk-in will be on the GARS 2 Meter Repeater, 147.075 with an 82.5 pl.

President's Pen
continued from page 1

on HF, VHF, and Satellites, the space station, Digital modes such as rtty, psk31, packet, mfsk, Repeaters, Slow Scan TV, Fast Scan TV, Nets, ARES, Sky Warn, Kit building, and a lot more things to do if you can dream of them. Make it fun and help out when needed. I'll say 73,
KA4KKF, David, President of GARS.

GARS@eGroups.com

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Howie Gould, W9HG

Treasurer

Randy Drescher, K4HS (770)925-9549

Activities Manager

Darren Pierce AG4BF

Board Of Directors

Howie Gould, W9HG

Ike Chapman, K4WEC

David Adcock, KA4KKF

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Publicity Chairman

Open

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Barry Zoll, N1TOQ, 770-277-5175

License Trustee

Randy Drescher, K4HS (770)925-9549

Repeater Chairman

Eddie Foust, WD4JEM

Tech Fest

Barry Zoll, N1TOQ (770)277-5175

TVI

Open

Contest Manager

Open

Net Manager

Susan Swiderski, AF4FO (770)449-0369

CW Net Manager

Gene Gach, KF4NOG (770) 925-0186

Field Day

Bob Varone, W4ETN, (770) 978-3179

Education Coordinator

Win Jackson, N1TWX (404)869-1347

Legal Counsel

Bill Brandon, WW4BB (770)554-9998

Apparel Manager

Susan Swiderski, AF4FO (770)449-0369

Christmas Party Chairman

Open

Digital Radio Chairman

Open

QSL Manager

Ade Wirth, W4ADE (770)614-3743

Webmaster

Mike, K4MJK

♦♦♦

CONGRATULATIONS TO GARS

Susan Swiderski, AF4FO

It is my pleasure, as Affiliated Club Coordinator for the Georgia section, to proudly announce that the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society has been recently renewed as a Special Service Club. Thanks to Ike, K4WEC, who filed the application on behalf of the club, GARS has once again returned to the ranks of amateur radio clubs that are recognized by the ARRL for their outstanding efforts on behalf of amateur radio and community service.

Most of you are probably aware of the benefits that come from League membership, such as being a part of the larger group of operators around the country. There truly is strength in numbers, and I believe that the larger

the number of hams under the umbrella of the ARRL, the more clout we'll have on Capital Hill when it comes to legislation that directly affects us as hams. While the "belonging to the bigger group" has been listed as one of

the major reasons that many people join the League, other benefits, such as receiving everybody's favorite QST magazine, the ability to use the QSL bureau to exchange cards for DX contacts, the ARRL reflector for our email

addresses, ability to purchase insurance through the League for our ham gear, the right to participate and compete in ARRL sanctioned contests and programs, such as DXCC, and receiving ARRL bulletins, DX news, and other

benefits of the "members only" page are definite plusses, as well.

Well, clubs that become affiliated with the ARRL receive certain benefits, as well. GARS has been an affiliated club since 1982, and to achieve that status, the club had to have a minimum of 51% membership in the ARRL among

its members, and a multitude of papers had to be completed and filed. Once a club is affiliated, it remains an affiliate, but it must file an annual report, and the ARRL membership must stay above 51%. The benefits for a club include the President's Handbook, ARRL insurance for club property, referrals of prospective hams, a rebate for every new or renewed League membership paid through the club, and a 50% discount on ads placed in QST.

Only a small percentage of affiliated clubs qualify for the prestigious title of Special Service Club. These clubs are committed to excellence in a number of areas that closely mirror the purposes of the Amateur Radio Services, as

given in part 97. The SSC strives in the areas of ham development and training, public relations, emergency communications, technical advancement, and general operating activities. In return, SSCs receive the benefits of affiliation, in addition to such things as being listed in the annual repeater directory and having the privilege of appointing local awards managers.

Be proud, GARS members, of the accomplishments that this club has made over the years, and of the part that each of you has played to make these accomplishments a reality. Congratulations on the Special Service Club designation, which this club certainly deserves. Keep up the good work!!

Hot Frequencies

By Barry Zoll, N1TOQ

As Hams, we understand the value of reliable communications. The FCC does as well and subsequently created the Family Radio Service, which can be used by anyone without obtaining a license. This service is made up of 14 UHF frequencies and uses "PL" tones as well as other technologies to give some means of privacy to the user. This service limits the power of these radios to 500mw and the radio and antenna must be one unit. The "rubber duck" antenna ensures limited transmission range but Radio Shack has introduced a clever transceiver that meets the letter of the law but has an external antenna. They placed the radio at the base of the magnetic mount antenna and the wire running into the vehicle goes to a microphone that includes an on/off switch, volume control, and channel selector. FRS radios range in price from as little as \$29.00 to just over \$100.00. I have personal experience with radios at both ends of the spectrum and the old saying that "you get what you pay for" holds true.

Here are the 14 FRS frequencies. Enter them into your radio and you might find it interesting!

<u>Channel</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
1	462.5625
2	462.5875
3	462.6125
4	462.6375
5	462.6625
6	462.6875
7	462.7125

<u>Channel</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
8	467.5625
9	467.5875
10	467.6125
11	467.6375
12	467.6625
13	467.6875
14	467.7125



Sue "Weather-Mom" and Ike Chapman
(Sue is sporting her new Weather Channel Apparel)



Carol and Victor Gann
Thanks Carol for all the help!

Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

First Tuesday

Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers

Old Hickory House
5490 Chamblee/Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody
Dutch dinner is at 6:30 PM, followed by meeting.
Talk In 145.410(-)

Kennehoochee ARC

First United Methodist Church in Marietta
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM
Talk In 146.880(-)

First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club

American Red Cross Building, Lindberg Plaza
Meeting is at 7:30 PM
Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

Jefferson Civic Center
Off of Memorial Dr. toward Winder from
Jefferson
Meeting is at 6:30 PM
Talk In - 147.225(+)

North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Shoney's Restaurant
Holcomb Bridge Road at grimes Bridge Road
Dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 145.47(-)

Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Killian Hall, Killian Hill Road
Lilburn
Dinner at 6:00 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 146.760(-)

Second Saturday

East Atlanta LAN

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church
Dunwoody
Meeting is at 10:00 AM
Talk In - 145.410(-) and 443.025(+)

Third THURSDAY



Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Central Baptist Church
Gwinnett Drive
Lawrenceville
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM in the fellowship hall.
Talk In -147.075(+) and 444.525(+)



Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

First Sunday

WCARS VEC
2:00 PM
(Except July and September)
Johnson High School
3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainesville
Terry Jones, W4TL (770)967-6364

First Saturday

9:00AM
Clayton County Emergency
Management Building
7496 N. McDonough St., Jonesboro
George White, KN4NG (770)361-6850

Second Tuesday

7:00PM
Walton EMC
3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA
(770)498-7759

Second Saturday, Odd Months

CA VEC
8:30 AM
Stone Mountain Methodist Church
5312 West Mountain St.
Stone Mountain
Bob Verone, W4ETN
(770)978-3179

Third Saturday

CA VEC
9:00AM
Marietta First United Methodist Church
Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave
Marietta
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ
(770)955-3171

Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC
7:00 PM
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK
(770)942-6466.

Fourth Friday

W5YI VEC
7:00 PM
St. John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Road
Lilburn
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Howie Gould, W9HG
(770)921-8362



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GARS Communication System

6 Meter Repeater
53.110 (-1 MHz) MHz
82.5 PL

Main Repeater Site
Oak Street, Lawrenceville

2 Meter Repeater
147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone
Main Repeater Site
Oak Street, Lawrenceville
Backup Repeater Site
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

Remote Receive Sites
Bogan Road, Buford
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

70 Cm Repeater
444.525(+) MHz
82.5 PL
Main Repeater Site
Lanier Mountain, Snellville
Remote Receive Sites
Under construction
Bogan Road, Buford
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross

APRS
144.390 -- 1200 Baud
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• Receiver 100W 100W
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• 100W 100W 100W 100W
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• 100W 100W 100W 100W
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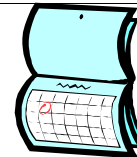
Giving Amateur Radio Spirit!



Upcoming Events

Committee Chairs:

Let's fill this feature with dates and events to keep GARS members looking ahead!



February 2001

Executive committee
15th GARS Club Meeting

March 2001

Executive committee
22nd GARS Club Meeting

April 2001

Executive committee
19th GARS Club Meeting

May 2001

Executive committee
17th GARS Club Meeting

June 2001

Executive committee
21st GARS Club Meeting
29th-30th FIELD DAY

July 2001

Executive committee
19th GARS Club Meeting

August 2001

Executive committee
16th GARS Club Meeting

September 2001

Executive committee
20th GARS Club Meeting

Meeting Time
&
Location

3rd Thursday, 7:30 PM
Central Baptist Church,
Gwinnett Drive,
Lawrenceville
Talk in 147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

Tech Fest 2001

By Barry Zoll, N1TOQ

Tech Fest 2001 was held on January 27th at the Central Baptist Church. This year's event was a great success with an estimated 200 people attending. The great weather, the fellowship, and good food contributed to what some people are saying was the best Tech Fest ever!

There were many new faces this year both attending and displaying including members of the community who had seen the articles in the newspaper but didn't know what Ham Radio was all about. The displays included Old Time Radio, Building a Generator, Antenna Construction, ARES, ARRL, Test Bench, Venture Crew, QSL Card Creation, Computer Programming your Radio, Fox Hunting, and How to use a Tube-type HF rig. We were also honored to have the Georgia Baptist Relief Organization's Disaster Relief Trailer as well as Adam Strode, District Sales Manager from ICOM America. Randy Drescher, K4HS, tried to make a deal with Adam for the ICOM 756 Pro but he'll have to sharpen his negotiating skills for next year.

The food was outstanding as usual. Johnnie Fearon, W4WKP said grace before the meal and as always, did an excellent job. The kitchen crew got things organized and served several different types of Chili with all the fixin's including Corn Bread, Salads, and desserts. The grill crew was busy outside cooking up burgers and dogs. We set a record this year by serving approximately 128 hamburgers and 60 hot dogs. With all that meat eating, the club may want to consider buying some cattle (rumor has it that Marty Fowler, KE4MLH, has volunteered to raise them)! Speaking of Marty, the joy of the day was overshadowed by his absence. We all wish Marty a speedy recovery.

Assorted pictures from this year's Tech Fest can be found throughout this newsletter or can be viewed entirely by going to www.zing.com/album/?id=4293031649 (courtesy of KF4MWI) or at the GARS Website.

As Co-Chairman of the Tech Fest, I'd like to thank everyone who organized, worked, and attended Tech Fest. Next year's event will hopefully be another record breaker and Joe Biddle and I look forward to your participation and attendance in 2002.

73 de N1TOQ

Outdoor Grill Staff



CDC Employees Checking the Food



Bill, AB0KF announced that he needs 15-20 operators for the Kidney Foundation walk on March 31st from 0800-1200.

The ARES meeting will be held on February 5th instead of the normal meeting date due to the GARS meeting the same week.

Don, KA4SFG announced that he needs help cleaning up after the meeting.

ARRL Section Coordinator Sandy Donohue, W4RU presented the program, which he announced the new Georgia section Web page at WWW.QSL.NET/ARRL-GA . He announced that education was the theme this year. The "Big Project" was a nationwide education effort geared for the middle school level kids. He also noted continuing education for existing HAMS for example Increasing Code Speeds, Soldering Classes, and Emergency Communications.

Mike, K4HBI the Georgia OOC talked about Part 97 rules and regulations.

Fred Runkle, K4KAZ Georgia Technical Coordinator talked about the technology advances in Amateur Radio.

Susan, AF4FO Georgia Affiliated Club Coordinator talked about GARS affiliation since 1982 and encouraged everyone to join the ARRL if you have not already done so.

Nominations for the 2001 club offices were announced as follows: Susan Swiderski AF4FO, President; Sid Williams K4SID, Vice President; Bill Ahls AB0KF, Activities Chairman; Dan Keohan KF4YSU, Treasurer; and Sharon Carter KG4HKO, Secretary. Further nominations will be accepted from the floor at February's meeting, followed by elections.

President Adcock adjourned the meeting at 9:25 P.M. Minutes recorded by Darren AG4BF

Mike Z (WA4MJZ) Rides in Style ARES Rescue Dog (call sign K9DOG)

